

**DELAWARE COMMISSION OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
MEETING MINUTES
MARCH 25, 2008**

Members Present: Lardizzone, Carroll, Corsa, Evans, Harden, Kitson, Smith, Spitzfaden, Timberman, and Wasson

Members Excused: Endres, Ennis, Lank, Newstadt and Thompson

Staff Present: Davila and Reid

Guests: Louis Gilmore (Purple Heart Medal Presentation), Charles M. Dorman (VA Medical Center Acting Director), Al Carter (SOS), Bill McMullen (AF Sergeants Association), Ed Moczulski (LP Lo-DEL), Betty Lou Evans (American Legion), David Rich (DVET/DOL), and Rich Magner

The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance to our Nations Flag.

Vice Chairman Lardizzone opened the meeting by presenting the Purple Heart Medal to Mr. Gilmore.

Mr. Carter commented that the State budget cuts will not affect the staffing at the Veterans Home.

Mr. McMullen announced that the AF Sergeants Association will be having their Division Conference April 25–27, 2008, at the Sheraton in Dover. They also have a raffle for their scholarship program.

Mr. Moczulski thanked our Veterans Service Officer, Ms. Laurie White, for all the work she has done with incarcerated veterans and the veterans at the Home of the Brave. He reported that he has been working with the VA Hospital to arrange medical treatment for the incarcerated veterans.

Mr. Magner announced that he retired as a service officer for the Military Order of the Purple Heart and reported that the organization is in the process of hiring a replacement.

Mr. Rich was introduced as the replacement for Dave White at the Department of Labor, Employment & Training, in the Wilmington office.

Mr. Reid provided a packet and an update on the Veterans Home. There was discussion about the Veterans Home and Mr. Reid answered questions. Mr. Dorman also discussed programs for veterans that were in need of placement but did not meet the Veterans Home criteria.

**MOTION BY HARDEN TO ACCEPT FEBRUARY COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES,
SECONDED BY CARROLL, MOTION CARRIED.**

COMMITTEE REPORTS

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Commissioner Carroll reported that the amount of the Veterans Home Fund is currently \$93,041.95 and the Friends of the Veterans Home Fund is \$489,452.59. He also reported that several Commissioners attended Senator Carper's briefing at the VA and provided a short recap.

ORGANIZATIONAL REPORTS

Evans (American Legion) – The National Commander was pleased with his warm welcome in Delaware.

Corsa (VVA) – He reached out to the Brain Injury Association and the elderly and aging population in Sussex County with regards to health issues.

Harden (WAVES) – They finally received their organizational flags for the Cemetery. The Delaware Women Veterans Symposium is scheduled for Saturday, April 26, 2008. With the recent budget cuts, it would be great if each veterans organization would donate \$50 to help defray the costs associated with the Symposium.

Carroll (MOPH) – Their organization sponsors a number of leadership programs and they are getting ready to do presentations soon. They have received notice of the Newark Memorial Day Parade and will be participating in the VA Patient Carnival. The New Castle Chapter is going to have their 15th annual Anniversary Brunch on Saturday, April 12, 2008.

Lardizzone (DAV) – Reported that this was the last weekend for him as NEC (National Executive Committeeman).

DATE OF NEXT MEETING: APRIL 22, 2008 (10:00 AM)

**LOCATION: Robbins Bldg, 802 Silver Lake Blvd, Suite 100
Dover, DE**

ADJOURNED